

TURKEY HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

February 25, 2014
Minutes of Meeting

Meeting called to order at 5:05 p.m.

Minutes were reviewed.

Present were Timothy Santry, Heidi Champagne, Beth Arsenault, Rhonda Connery, Gail Okerman, Wendy Bertrand, Laura Friend

Vacant Position on Council

- Mr. Santry will have the procedure of a new SAC member approved by the School Committee on February 26, 2014, which would be to appoint a person for just the remaining 2 meetings since we are at the end of our 2 year commitment of council membership.

MCAS & PARCC Schedules Session 1

- Schedule passed out for March MCAS and for the PARCC assessments. Schedule can be viewed on THMS website or [here](#).
- One difference this year will be that we will test on Fridays, and 4th and 7th grades can test on the same day, as well as 5th and 6th on the same days.
- PARCC tests are purely for feedback for the state and we will not receive any student scores. This is a timed, online test, which is different from the paper and pencil untimed MCAS that students are accustomed.

Assemblies

- “Tournament of Science” was held and was a success for 4th and 5th grade, and enjoyable for 6th and 7th grade.
- Rally for respect prior to the TIGER program, visiting again from Plymouth
- TIGER held two assemblies on community involvement and empathy, with an emphasis around anti-bullying. They also had workshops for 4th and 6th grades.

Lockdown Procedures

- As a pilot program, we are trying out the use of door magnets. Classroom doors will be locked at all times and a long magnetic strip that covers the doorjambs that the lock will not engage when the door closes.
- A full lockdown drill will be held before MCAS. Teachers will prep the kids with discussions of the importance of practicing for emergency situations.

Gift Fund

- PTO gifted \$8000 to the school and THMS supplemented \$5900 to purchase a third iPad cart with 30 new iPads. These are already ordered.
- Two new InFocus machines have been purchased for \$1100. This is to supplement for the TV carts that have been outdated and have proven hazardous and lethal at a nearby district.

PTO recommendation for School Advisory Council

- Looking for Focus Group of about 5 or 6 parents to provide feedback about THMS's climate and culture as viewed by the community.

2014-2015 School Improvement Plan

- Three goals on SIP: Critical Thinking, Wireless Technology, and a Social/Emotional Goal.
- Part of the Social/Emotional Goal is RTI (Response to Intervention) and along with that TST (Teacher Support Team) which has a great success rate for intervening before a student would need a formal 504 or IEP plan.
- Open floor for feedback on the SIP for improvements or ideas to be added.

Misc.

- How is recess during the winter/snowy months?
 - ☐ No playground after reconfiguration, so there is a ball collection, jump ropes, etc. and children go outside in the front lot. Parent concern that children are bored or not moving a lot. Is there a better way? Peaceful Playground? This is pricey and you still need the room.
 - ☐ Possible letter sent home suggesting students come prepared with snow pants and boots, children can access the snow covered portion.
- End of the Year Celebration BBQ definitely a go, with the dunk tank, face painting, ice cream/popsicles. Date TBD.
- Contact Little League about possible schedule conflicts.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.

The next meeting will be April 1, 2014 at 5pm.